

31st May 2010 - Paris, France

Global Aquaculture Alliance BAP scheme receives GFSI recognition

The Global Aquaculture Alliance Best Aquaculture Practices (BAP) certification scheme has been successfully benchmarked against the GFSI Guidance Document food safety requirements, it was announced today.

31st May 2010 - The Global Food Safety Initiative (GFSI), managed by The Consumer Goods Forum, announced today that the Best Aquaculture Practices (BAP) certification scheme developed by the Global Aquaculture Alliance has been given full recognition by the Global Food Safety Initiative Board of Directors.

The Global Aquaculture Alliance is an international, non-profit trade association dedicated to advancing environmentally and socially responsible aquaculture. The food safety module has been developed through its **Best Aquaculture Practices certification scheme (BAP)**, and the GFSI recognition covers the generic food safety requirements running through the scheme. Out of scope of the GFSI recognition are the six different commodity specific modules.

The benchmarking process has been completed using an internationally accepted set of food safety requirements, based on industry best practice and sound science, which are developed through a consensus building process by key stakeholders in the food supply chain. These requirements can be found in the **GFSI Guidance Document Version 5**, which is freely available for download on www.mygfsi.com.

Jürgen Matern, Chairman of the Global Food Safety Initiative Board of Directors and Vice President, Strategic Quality Management, Metro AG said "In light of the growing importance of aquaculture within the food supply chain and the future needs of a growing population, the GFSI recognition of the food safety elements within this scheme will provide confidence in products sourced from this method of production."

"Achieving this prestigious GFSI benchmarking is an important milestone for the BAP program that will assure global markets that seafood from BAP-certified facilities meets the highest standards for food safety," GAA Executive Director Wally Stevens said. "It is particularly meaningful as BAP certification expands to include new species and cover the full production chain."

About GFSI

The GFSI, managed by the Consumer Goods Forum, was set up in 2000 to pursue continuous improvement in food safety management systems, cost efficiency in the supply chain and, above all, safe food for consumers worldwide. For more information, please visit www.mygfsi.com.

About GAA

The Global Aquaculture Alliance, the leading standards-setting organization for aquaculture sea-food, is an international, non-profit trade association. As outlined at www.gaalliance.org, its Best Aquaculture Practices certification program covers food safety, traceability, animal welfare, environmental sustainability and social responsibility.

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The Consumer Goods Forum

The Consumer Goods Forum is an independent global parity-based Consumer Goods network. It brings together the CEOs and senior management of around 650 retailers, manufacturers, service providers and other stakeholders across 70 countries.

The Forum was created in June 2009 by the merger of CIES - The Food Business Forum, the Global Commerce Initiative (GCI) and the Global CEO Forum. The Consumer Goods Forum is governed by its Board of Directors, which includes an equal number of manufacturer and retailer CEOs and chairpersons. Forum member companies have combined sales of EUR 2.1trillion.

The Forum provides a unique global platform for thought leadership, knowledge exchange and networking between retailers, manufacturers and their partners on collaborative, non-competitive issues. Its strength lies in the privileged access it offers to the key players in the sector as well as in the development and implementation of best practices along the value chain.

It has a mandate from its members to develop common positions on key strategic and practical issues affecting the consumer goods business and to focus on non-competitive collaborative process improvement. With its headquarters in Paris and its regional offices in Washington, D.C., Singapore, Tokyo and Shanghai, The Consumer Goods Forum serves its members throughout the world.

This press release is also available on the website <http://www.theconsumergoodsforum.com>

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